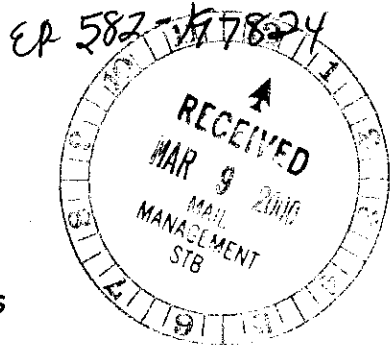


CMC Steel Group



A Commercial Metals Company



Steel Mills:

SMI-Texas - Seguin, TX
SMI Steel Inc. - Birmingham, AL
SMI STEEL-Arkansas -
Magnolia, AR
SMI STEEL-South Carolina -
Cayce, SC

Steel Fabrication:

Alamo Steel - Waco, TX
Capitol City Steel Co. - Austin, TX
Capitol Steel, Inc. -
Baton Rouge & Slidell, LA
CoMet Steel -
Dallas & McKinney TX
Houston Steel Service -
Houston, TX
SMI Georgia Rebar -
Lawrenceville, GA
SMI Joist Company - Hope, AR
SMI Joist Florida - Starke, FL
SMI Joist Nevada - Fallon, NV
SMI Joist South Carolina -
Cayce & Congaree, SC
SMI-Owen Steel Co. -
Columbia, SC
SMI Rebar North Carolina -
Gastonia, NC
SMI Rebar South Carolina -
Columbia, SC
SMI Rebar Virginia -
Fredericksburg, VA
Steel Products - Jacksonville, FL
Steel Products - Hope, AR
Safety Steel Service -
Victoria & Corpus Christi, TX
South Carolina Steel Corp. -
Taylors, SC
Southern Post Company -
Magnolia, AR; San Marcos, TX;
Columbia, SC; Brigham City, UT
Southern States Steel -
Beaumont, TX
Sterling Steel - Houston, TX
Suncoast Steel - Naples, FL
Texas Cold Finished Steel -
Houston, TX

Concrete Related Products:

Construction Materials Inc. -
Alexandria, Baton Rouge,
New Orleans, Shreveport,
Sulphur, LA; Gulfport, MS
SMI-Owen Supply Co. -
Columbia, SC
Shepherd's - Austin, College Station,
Conroe, Corpus Christi,
Houston (2), Lubbock, Rio Grande
Valley, Round Rock, San Antonio,
Texas City, & Waco TX;
Lawrenceville, GA

Scrap Recycling:

AMP Recycling - Austin, TX
CMC-Augusta - Augusta, GA
Commercial Metals-Austin -
Austin, TX
CMC-Cayce - Cayce, SC
CMC-Lexington - Lexington, SC
CMC - 1st Augusta -
Augusta, SC
Horowitz Salvage - Seguin, TX

Miscellaneous:

Allegheny Heat Treating -
Chicora, PA
SMI Rail - Seguin, TX
Safety Railway Service -
Victoria, TX

Opinion On Major Rail Consolidations
STB Ex Parte No. 582

BNSF/CN

STB Finance Docket No. 33842

My name is Monty L. Parker, Sr., and I am Vice President-Rail Transportation for the CMC Steel Group, a vertically integrated company that operates in the mini-mill sector of the steel industry. My company uses rail transportation for over 1 million tons of annual shipments. We use the UP, BNSF, NS and CSX railroads to transport our products and materials.

I support the STB's decision in the BNSF/CN docket to examine carefully the BNSF/CN proposed control application, including all the effects it could have on the rail transportation industry. The effect of another merger, in my opinion, would be catastrophic.

I appreciate the Board soliciting public comment before BNSF/CN file their application.

My company has been harmed significantly by ALL recent mergers. Another merger, especially one that will likely trigger even more merging between remaining railroad companies, should be avoided. All past mergers promised the same things; better service, more efficient operations, etc. After successfully merging, all promises were forgotten. The shipping public is then stuck with a larger railroad that: has fewer employees to handle problems or offer assistance; refuses to pass on the efficiencies promised by the merger, to the shipper, in the form of reduced or unchanged rates; is more of a monopoly than ever over the shippers transportation alternatives; and doesn't answer to anyone about how the shipper is treated. The whole process is inherently wrong.

I strongly suggest that the Board take a negative stand on ANY proposed mergers in the future, starting with the BNSF/CN merger.

Respectfully submitted,

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